

**Sinn Fein**

**Six County Report & Financial Statements**

**Year Ended 31 December 2008**

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## **Party Details**

### **Party Officers**

Leader: Gerry Adams  
Treasurer: Rita O'Hare  
Nominating Officer: Pat Doherty  
Chairperson: Declan Kearney

### **Party Headquarters:**

51 Falls Rd, 44 Parnell Square  
Belfast & Dublin  
BT12 4PD

### **Auditors:**

Kinsella Mitchell and Associates  
Registered Auditors  
Finance House  
46 Prussia St  
Dublin 7

## Makeup & Membership

### Staff

By the end of 2008 the Party was directly employing 16 full time staff. In addition to this our MPs, MEP and MLAs employ a total of 57 full time staff on constituency work.

### Departments

The following departments operate within the Party to oversee and manage the organisations business and further details on these departments can be found on the Sinn Féin website: [www.sinnfein.ie](http://www.sinnfein.ie)

- Administration
- International Affairs
- Campaigns
- Ogra Shinn Féin
- Gender Equality
- Cultural Department
- Finance & Personnel Department
- Publicity Department
- All Ireland Department
- Training & Education Department

### Elected Representatives

- **Westminster MPs (5)**

West Belfast:	Gerry Adams
Mid Ulster:	Martin Mc Guinness
Fermanagh/S. Tyrone:	Michelle Gildernew
West Tyrone:	Pat Doherty
Newry and Armagh:	Conor Murphy

**MEP:** Bairbre de Brun

- **6 County Assembly Members (27)**

<b>West Belfast:</b> Gerry Adams Sue Ramsey Paul Maskey Fra McCann Jennifer McCann	<b>Mid Ulster:</b> Michelle O'Neill Martin McGuinness Francie Molloy	<b>Lagan Valley:</b> Paul Butler
<b>Newry &amp; Armagh:</b> Cathal Boylan Conor Murphy Mickey Brady	<b>North Belfast:</b> Gerry Kelly Caral Ni Chuilin	<b>North Antrim:</b> Daithi McKay
	<b>South Belfast</b> Alex Maskey	<b>Fermanagh S.Tyrone:</b> Michelle Gildernew

**West Tyrone:**

Pat Doherty  
Barry McElduff  
Claire McGill

**Foyle:**

Martina Anderson  
Raymond McCartney

**South Down:**

Catrina Ruane  
Willie Clarke

**Upper Bann:**

John O'Dowd

**East Derry:**

Francie Brolly

**South Antrim:**

Mitchel McLaughlin

• **6 County Councillors (119)**

**Belfast City Council**

**West Belfast**

Paul Maskey  
Michael Browne  
Gerard O'Neill  
Chrissie MacGiolla Mhín  
Marie Cush  
Marie Moore  
Fra McCann  
Tom Hartley  
Janice Austin

**North Belfast**

Conor Maskey  
Danny Lavery  
Margaret McClenaghan  
Tierna Cunningham

**South Belfast**

Alex Maskey

**Coleraine Borough Council**

Billy Leonard

**Limavady Borough Council**

John McElhinney  
Marion Donaghy  
Cathal O'hOisín  
Anne Brolly

Paddy Butcher

Brenda Chivers

**Criagavon District Council**

Maurice Magill  
John O'Dowd  
Jonathan McGribben  
Michael Tallon  
Brian McKeown  
Mairead O'Dowd

**Derry City Council**

Elisha McLaughlin  
Maeve McLaughlin  
Gerry MacLochlainn  
Kevin Campbell

Lynn Fleming

**Lisburn Borough Council**

Angela Nelson  
Paul Butler  
Arthur Carson  
Charlene O'Hara

**Antrim Borough Council**

Anthony Brady  
Anne Marie Logue  
Henry Cushinan

**Ballymoney Council**

Daithí McKay

Anita Cavlan

Philip McGuigan

**Moyle District Council**

Padraig McShane  
Oliver McMullan  
Cara McShane  
Cathal Newcombe

**Armagh City Council**

Cathy Rafferty  
Mary Doyle  
Paul Corrigan  
Cathal Boylan  
Noel Sheridan

**Newry & Mourne District Council**

Mick Murphy  
Brendan Curran  
Michael Ruane  
Charlie Casey  
Marion Mathers  
Turlough Murphy  
Packie McDonald  
Anthony Flynn  
Pat McGinn  
Colman Burns  
Terry Hearty  
Jimmy McCreesh

5.

**Down District Council**

Patricia Logue  
William Page  
Tony Hassan  
Peter Anderson  
Paul Fleming

**Magherafelt District Council**

Peter Bateson  
Seán McPeake  
Ian Milne  
Kathleen McEldowney  
Anne Gribben  
Sean Kerr

**Ballymena Bor. Council:**

Monica Digney  
**Strabane District Council**

Daniel Breslin  
Kieran Maguire  
Claire McGill  
Gerard Foley  
Brian G McMahon  
Rory McHugh  
Jarlath McNulty  
Michaela Boyle

**Dungannon & S. Tyrone  
Council:**

Phelim Gildernew  
Larry McLarnon  
Michael Gillespie

Desmond Donnelly  
Michelle O'Neill  
Colla McMahon  
Francie Molloy  
Sean McGuigan

Eamon McConvey  
Michael Coogan  
Liam Johnston  
Hugh McDowell  
William Clarke

**Newtownabbey Borough Council**

Breige Meehan  
**Banbridge Council**

Dessie Ward  
**Fermanagh District Council**

Stephen Huggett  
Breige McSorley  
Domhnall O'Cobhthaigh  
Ruth Lynch  
Pat Cox  
Brain McCaffery  
Thomas O'Reilly

**Omagh District Council**

Martin McColgan  
Sharon O'Brien  
Ann Quinn  
Peter Kelly  
Seán Begley  
Declan McAleer  
Frankie Donnelly  
Annemarie Fitzgerald  
Seán B Clarke  
Barry McIlduff

**Cookstown District Council**

Seán Clarke  
Michael McIvor  
John McNamee  
Oliver Molloy  
Patrick Pearse McAleer

## **Accounting Units**

The Party presently has 16 accounting units registered with the Electoral Commission. There were no additions / deletions during the reporting period.

Cuige Na Se Chondae

West Belfast Comhairle Ceantair

South & East Belfast Comhairle Ceantair

North Belfast Comhairle Ceantair

Derry City Comhairle Ceantair

East Derry Comhairle Ceantair

South Derry Comhairle Ceantair

South Down Comhairle Ceantair

North & East Antrim Comhairle Ceantair

South Antrim Comhairle Ceantair

Newry & Armagh Comhairle Ceantair

Fermanagh Comhairle Ceantair

West Tyrone Comhairle Ceantair

East Tyrone Comhairle Ceantair

South Tyrone Comhairle Centair

Upper Bann Comhairle Ceantair

During the course of the past year Sinn Féin has continued to develop the party's political strategy aimed at bringing about national reunification and establishing an Ireland of Equals.

This involved the renewal, continuation and intensification of political activity throughout Ireland on a number of campaign fronts. It also involved the taking of some new and significant initiatives. Some of the more significant political activities of the past year are set out below.

One particularly important initiative was the establishment of a high powered party taskforce to drive forward the roadmap to Irish unity, with a particular focus on translating the goodwill and support in the USA and across the world among the Irish Diaspora into active support for Irish re-unification.

Activity in the early part of the year once again included an extensive party engagement with grassroots support. This involved, for the second year running, a series of public meetings in which the Sinn Féin leadership mapped out the party's strategy for bringing about Irish unity, and also addressed issues of concern raised in the meetings.

During the first half of the year Sinn Féin campaigned vigorously and successfully throughout the 26 Counties in support of a NO vote in the referendum on the Lisbon Treaty.

Drawing on the party experience in the construction of the Irish Peace Process, Sinn Féin continued to support the advancement and development of processes in the Middle East, in Sri Lanka, between the people of the Basque country and Spain, and in Iraq. This included overseas trips and engagements by a number of Sinn Féin leadership figures.

Negotiations with the DUP on a range of issues continued throughout the year with a continuing focus on the transfer of powers on policing and justice.

The party also continued its engagements with the British and Irish Governments on outstanding issues and commitments relating to both the Good Friday and St Andrews Agreements.

Party representative on the Policing Board and the District Policing Partnerships continued to engage in the policing structures as mandated by the Special Ard Fheis the previous year.

Sinn Féin Ministers in the Executive and Sinn Féin MLAs in the Assembly continued to promote and develop a progressive political agenda underpinned by an equality and rights based framework.

Central to this has been the party efforts to radically transform the northern education system, including ending academic selection, the development of a rural white paper addressing the needs of the rural communities and reviewing the regional development strategy with a view to ending regional disparities and redressing infrastructure imbalance between east and west of the Bann.



Alongside this the party continued to campaign on a wide range of social and economic and local government reform issues. This included a particular emphasis across the 6 Counties on the need for the introduction of equality proofing into policy formation and decision-making at local government level. It also involved persistent and consistent pressure for local government structural reform to reflect the partnership and inclusive governance arrangements set out in the Good Friday Agreement.

The Sinn Féin joint First Minister in the Executive co-hosted an investment conference in the north attended by a large US delegation exploring the potential for investment in Ireland.

Sinn Féin also continued to press for the introduction of a rights based Irish Language Act envisaged in the St Andrews Agreement.

Party representatives participated intensively in the deliberations of the Bill of Rights forum and made significant submissions on the full range of relevant issues.

Reflecting an all-Ireland approach to harmonizing upwards Human Rights protections one of the party TDs published a Bill entitled the Human Rights Commission (Amendment) Bill 2008 which sought to guarantee the resource needs of the 26 County Human Rights Commission.

During the year Sinn Féin TDs maintained pressure on the government to address the plight of communities being devastated by unemployment from East Cork to Kerry to Donegal. The party also highlighted consistently the deficiencies in the health service and health care and campaigned for measures to address poverty.

The party's representative in the Seanad presented a significant report entitled 'Awakening the West – overcoming social economic inequality in the West' to the Oireachtas joint committee on Arts, Sports, Tourism, Rural, Community and Gaeltacht affairs.

Sinn Féin's Finance spokesperson in the 26 Counties launched the party's budget priorities 2009 document entitled '*Realising Ireland's Potential*', which set out the party view on the policies required to deliver an economy based on job creation, social inclusion and fair taxation.

Party representatives attended the newly constituted Good Friday Agreement Implementation Committee.

Sinn Féin MEPs continued to engage in the full spectrum of political activities both within the European parliament and here in Ireland, pressing for progressive reform and addressing relevant issues on a range of matters including agriculture, fisheries, climate change and language and culture.

Sinn Féin elected representatives and other party activists continued to deliver a first class constituency service in all areas.

## **Sinn Féin**

### **Statement of Treasurer's responsibilities**

The treasurer of the Party is required by the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the Party and of its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the treasurer is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it's inappropriate to presume that the party will continue in business.

Section 41 of the Act requires that the Treasurer is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at anytime the financial position of the party at that time and to enable her to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Act. She is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the party and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **To the Treasurer of Sinn Fein**

We have audited the financial statements of Sinn Fein for the year ended 31 December 2008 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Treasurer and auditors**

The responsibilities of the Treasurer for preparing the annual report and financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and Accounting Standards are set out in the Statement of Treasurer's responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the accounting policies. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Overview is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Party has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we required for our audit.

We read the Overview and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information contained in the annual report

### **Basis of audit opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Auditing Standard issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Treasurer in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Party's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Party's affairs as at 31 December 2008 and of its surplus for the year ended 31 December 2008 and have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000

**Kinsella Mitchell and Associates**  
**Registered Auditors**  
**Finance House**  
**46 Prussia Street**  
**Dublin 7**

**29 June 2008**

**Sinn Fein 6 Counties**

**Income & Expenditure for Y/E 31 December 2008**

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
	<b><u>Note</u></b>		
Donations		530246	789271
Grants	3	252666	279264
Admin & Secretarial Support		332479	0
		-----	-----
		1115391	1068535
		-----	-----
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Wages & Related Costs	4	444637	266946
Establishment Expenses		61172	37968
Admin Expenses		246122	91554
Travel Expenses		23436	21858
Conferences & Seminars		57701	83449
Political Development		31457	25741
International Dept.		44202	62115
Press Office		16606	2463
Security Costs		42991	41092
Charitable donations		200	1000
Depreciation		30013	34497
Grants to Accounting Units		26517	77628
Political Campaigns		14200	23902
Election Expenses		0	56588
Cultural Dept.		8953	8779
Advisory Committees		460	287
Legal & Professional Fees		6459	60805
Training & Education Dept.		8741	10875
Contribution to Party Newspaper		25000	19052
Loss on Disposal of Vehicles		4921	0
Research Costs		33502	30400
All Ireland Dept.		3942	3206
Publications		8402	0
Ogra Shinn Fein		5523	0
Catering		3835	0
		-----	-----
		1148992	960205
		-----	-----
 <b><u>Surplus/(Deficit) for year</u></b>		 ( 33601)	 108330
		-----	-----

**Sinn Féin 6 Counties**

**Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Note of Historical Cost  
Income and Expenditure for Year ended 31 December 2008**

Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	( 33601 )
Net unrealised surplus / (deficit) on revaluation of Properties	-
Unrealised gains / (losses) on fixed asset investments	-
Actuarial gains / (losses) on defined benefit Pension scheme assets and liabilities	-
	-----
Total recognised gains and losses for the period	( 33601 ) =====
Reported surplus / (deficit) before taxation	( 33601 )
Realisation of property revaluation gains of previous years	-
Realisation of investment revaluation gains of previous years	-
Difference between actual and historical cost depreciation charge	-
	-----
Historical cost surplus / (deficit) from party Activities before taxation	( 33601 ) =====
Historical cost surplus / (deficit) after taxation	( 33601 ) =====

**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2008**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>			
Tangible Assets	6	85519	97437
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>			
Debtors	7	88810	149604
Grants Due	9	43325	43743
Cash at Bank		85589	27609
		-----	-----
		217724	220956
<b><u>Creditors: amounts falling due 8</u></b>			
<b><u>within 1 year</u></b>			
Accruals		33645	20426
		-----	-----
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		184079	200530
<b><u>Creditors: amounts falling due</u></b>			
<b><u>in more than 1 year</u></b>			
		( 6333 )	( 1101 )
		-----	-----
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>263265</b>	<b>296866</b>
		-----	-----
<b>Accumulated Fund</b>			
Balance at 1 January		296866	188536
Surplus/(Deficit) for period		( 33601 )	108330
		-----	-----
		<b>263265</b>	<b>296866</b>
		-----	-----

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer

Dated:

**Sinn Féin 6 Counties**

**Cash Flow Statement for Year ended 31 December 2008**

<b>Operating surplus before taxation</b>	<b>( 33601 )</b>
Depreciation	30013
Decrease in Debtors	61212
Increase in Creditors	18451
	-----
	76075
Interest Payable	2010
	-----
<b>Net operating surplus before taxation &amp; interest</b>	<b>78085</b>
Interest Paid	( 2010 )
	-----
	76075
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	
Payments to acquire tangible assets	18095
<b><u>INCREASE IN CASH</u></b>	<b><u>57980</u></b>

## Sinn Féin 6 Counties

### Notes forming part of the Financial statements for Year ended 31 December 2008

#### 1. Accounting Policies

The Financial statements have been prepared under the historical convention and are in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the statement of Accounts Guidance Notes issued by the Electoral Commission.

#### 2. Depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less estimated residual values of all fixed assets evenly over their expected useful lives. It is calculated at the following rates:-

Fixtures & Fittings	20 % p.a.
Equipment	33⅓% p.a.
Vehicles	25 % p.a.

#### 3. Grants Received

Assembly Party Allowance	117835
Westminster Representative Allowance	92738
Assembly Whips Allowance	42093
	-----
	252666

#### 4. Employees

Staff costs consist of:-

Wages & Salaries	399494
Social Security Costs	45143
Other Pension Costs	-
	-----
	444637



## 5. Surplus for year

This has been arrived at after charging:

Auditor's remuneration – Audit services	1500
Depreciation	30013

## 6. Tangible Assets

	<u>Fixtures Fittings</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b><u>Cost or Valuation</u></b>				
At 1 Jan 2008	10000	40110	138645	188755
Additions	-	1721	25295	27016
Disposals	-	-	( 21145 )	( 21145 )
	_____	_____	_____	_____
At 31 Dec 2008	10000	41831	142795	194626
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Depreciation</u></b>				
At 1 Jan 2008	7378	26683	45033	79094
Deprec. Charges	524	5049	24440	30013
	_____	_____	_____	_____
At 31 Dec 2008	7902	31732	69473	109107
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b><u>Net Book Value</u></b>				
At 31 Dec 2008	2098	10099	73322	85519
	_____	_____	_____	_____

7. **Debtors**

Short term advances to accounting units	4565
Sundry Debtors	84245
	-----
	88810

8. **Creditors:**

Amount falling due within 1 Year

Accruals	33645
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Amounts falling due in more than 1 year:

Lombard Car Loan	6333
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9. **Grants Due**

Assembly Whips Allowance	14240
Assembly Party Allowance	29085
	-----
	43325